

REMARKS

Claims 1 -12 remain in this application. None of the claims have been amended in this response

Claims 1-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Bansal et al.* (US Patent 6,771,749) in view of *Picard* (US Patent 6,233,318). Applicant traverses these rejections. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Specifically, none of the cited art, alone or in combination, recite “a transmission apparatus for sequentially requesting all individual voice messages stored in the voice memory system via a single input,” as well as “a memory apparatus for separately storing the individual voice messages in the voice processing apparatus” as recited in claim 1 and similarly recited in claim 7. According to the present claims, a number of voice messages stored in the voice memory system are retrieved together by one simple input - such as a mouse click or pressing a key - whereby the voice processing apparatus automatically and sequentially requests the voice messages and stores them separately. Using the separate storing techniques of the transmitted voice messages, a subscriber can arbitrarily access all voice messages stored in the voice processing apparatus in a random order without having to access the voice memory system again.

In contrast, *Bansal* discloses a method and a device for transmitting stored messages to a terminal device whereby the messages, which are stored in a messaging device, are read out for the corresponding subscriber on the basis of an identification code transmitted by the terminal device and are transmitted to the terminal device (see column 4, lines 12 to 19). *Bansal* however, is silent regarding how the messages that are transmitted to the terminal device are stored in the terminal device. The passage cited by the examiner (column 2, lines 25 to 30) only discloses that the terminal device exhibits capacities for recording and storing messages that are to be transmitted to the messaging device. However, it does not follow that messages that are transmitted from the messaging device to the terminal device are separately stored in the terminal device.

Furthermore, the messages stored in the messaging device are not automatically and sequentially requested by the terminal device under *Bansal*. The “user preferences” cited by the Examiner (col. 3, lines 60-63; col. 4, lines 16-25; col. 6, lines 1-6) only refer to the type of message that will be received by the user (e.g., e-mail, voicemail, etc.) and does not disclose any sequencing capabilities. The messaging device is modified such that all messages stored for the user are detected by the messaging device and are transmitted together to the terminal device. Under the present claims however, a modification of the voice memory system is not necessary since the terminal device has the control.

Regarding *Picard*, the reference describes a voice mail system whereby the user is informed of the stored voice messages via a HTML page. Subsequently, the user can individually download the stored voice messages (col. 7, lines 20-23). Applicants submit that nowhere does *Picard* disclose or suggest that the voice mail system request multiple stored voice messages together by one simple input whereby the voice processing apparatus automatically sequentially requests the voice messages and stores them separately. The disclosure in *Picard* is wholly premised on the downloading of individual messages one at a time. Indeed, it would be contrary to the voice mail system of *Picard et al.* to modify the system to request all individual voice mail messages with a single input. Therefore, *Picard* does not disclose or suggest Applicants’ claimed invention.

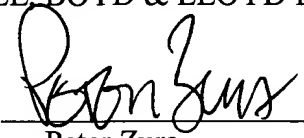
Neither *Bansal* nor *Picard* teach (1) a number of voice messages, which are transmitted by a single user action, that are stored separately in a terminal device so that a user can subsequently process these messages in an arbitrary order and (2) that a number of messages stored in a central system can be automatically sequentially requested by a terminal device so that the method can be implemented without a modification of the central system.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the patent application is in condition for allowance and request a Notice of Allowance be issued.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. 02-1818 for any fees associated with the submission of this Response, including any time extension fees. Please reference docket number 112740-237.

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